





# Sun Space Winter Gardens Conservatories

B12 Conservatories Source of free heat or a Drain on energy



### GreenSpec

Search

#### HOME

PRODUCTS

MANUFACTURERS

SPECIFICATIONS (available 2007)

MATERIALS

ENERGY

CHECKLIST

CODE FOR SUSTAINABLE HOMES

THE LOW CARBON HOUSE

DESIGN

**IMAGE BANK** 

REFURBISHMENT

**FORUMS** 

SITE WASTE

DURABILITY

SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS

**FABRICATORS** 

RECLAMATION

CRAFTSMEN

POLICIES & STRATEGIES

RESEARCH & PAPERS

RESOURCES

CPD

HOW WE SELECT PRODUCTS

CONTACT GREENSPEC

REGISTER YOUR PRODUCT

ECOBUILD: 'GREEN SHOOTS'

GreenSpec is the UK construction industry's definitive guide to 'green' building design, products, specification and construction. Inside GreenSpec you will find a wealth of information aimed at helping you to design more energy and resource efficient buildings, using materials and technologies that minimise damage to people and the environment.



#### **PRODUCTS**



A directory of sustainable products available in the UK. Each product page comes with a description, brochure downloads and contact details.

#### MATERIALS



A guide to sustainable materials, both traditional and new. Materials such as masonry, roofing and flooring are compared based on their environmental impacts.

#### LOW CARBON HOUSE



An essential guide to designing a low carbon house: Includes energy standards for the CfSH levels 4-6, passive solar design, air-tightness and more.....







#### CHECKLIST



#### **ENERGY**



#### **IMAGE BANK**







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#### Research and Papers

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#### 1 Construction

'Sustainable Construction: Whole Life Cost Benefits'	A report by Cyrill Sweetts comissioned by Kent County Council / Interreg IIIA to establish the <b>cost of alternative materials</b> commonly used in sustainable construction. The survey results are tabulated to allow direct comparison and illustrate true value.
'Coping with Substitution'	Avoiding Substitution - The substitution of sustainable materials with non-sustainable products by contractors is a major barrier to sustainable construction. By using dedicated specifications instead of the popular generic type, the buildling designer can regain control. ( <i>Brian Murphy, GreenSpec, 2006</i> )
'Commercial Green Buildings'	Delivering Sustainable Design in the Real World - Commercial constraints quite often stunt the ambitions of the building designer. In this paper, a strategy for breaking down these barriers is explored an the practical implications for the design of buildings in the future are discussed. (Andrew Pettifer, Gifford & Partners, 2003)
'UK Housing and Climate Change'	Heavyweight vs lightweight construction - This important report demonstrates that as UK temperatures climb,' lightweight' buildings are ill-prepared to meet the challenge. 'Heavyweight' construction that borrows from traditional cooling techniques in Southern Europe is setting the model for future housing developments. (Ove Arup and Bill Dunster Architects, 2005)
'Thermal Mass for Housing'	Concrete solutions for the changing climate - This guide provides information on the simple, passive design techniques that can be applied in masonry and concrete dwellings to take advantage of their inherent thermal mass on a year-round basis. (The Concrete Centre, 2006)
'Earth Brick Construction'	This report presents the results of a two-year research programme to monitor and evaluate the performance of earth masonry in modern wall construction. The programme made a detailed study of one new building through the complete construction process, including design, procurement and occupation. It also took into consideration several other projects that used these materials.  Tom Morton is currently writing 'Earth Masonry: Design & Construction Guidelines' to be published by the BRE in Spring 2007.
'Intro to the Green Guide'	An Introduction to the Green Guide to Specification - This introduction looks at the fundamentals of the Green Guide and how it works for building designers ( <i>Tuija Halonen, BRE, 2005</i> )
'GreenSnec and the Market'	Far from leading the way the GreenGuide preserves the status gun and stifles the market in green

### GreenSpec

### COMMERCIAL GREEN BUILDINGS DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN IN THE REAL WORLD

by Andrew Pettifer

#### INTRODUCTION

In a small number of high profile construction projects the principles of sustainable design shape the entire brief and become the defining feature of the project. For the great majority of clients, however, commercial constraints limit or more often totally negate any environmental aspirations of the client or design team. In the private sector this is because of the need to make money and in the public sector because of the lack of it.

The environmental imperative of taking a sustainable approach to construction projects is recognised widely and the arguments are well rehearsed and oft repeated; fifty per cent of energy use in the UK is from buildings; the average Brit consumes Mother Earth's resources at three times the rate she can replenish them; global warming is proven and shaping our climate. Too often papers and lectures are delivered that address these concerns at a strategic level but offer little help to the practitioner. We need to stop harping on about the problems and start delivering some solutions.

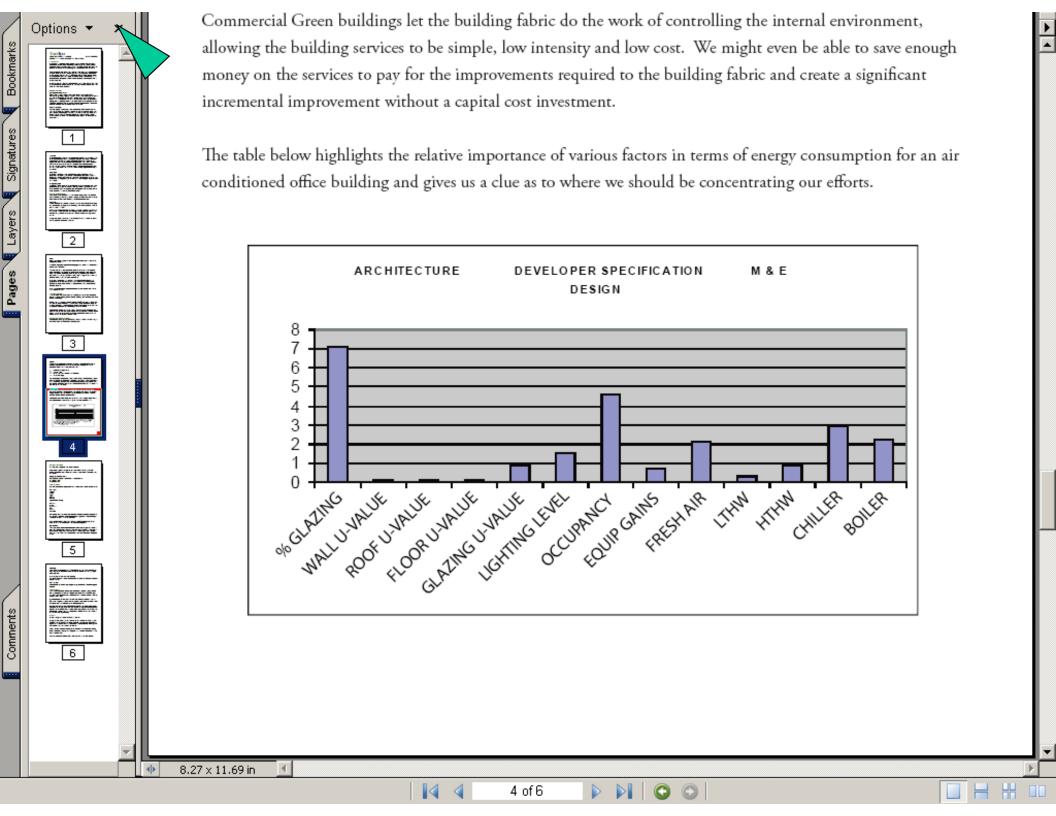
This paper looks at barriers to the delivery of sustainable buildings in the 'real' (ie commercial) world. A strategy for breaking down these barriers known as 'Commercial Green' is explored and the practical implications for the design of buildings in the future are discussed.











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### Green Houses & Conservatories: Summer

- Glass permit the passage of the rays from the sun to warm the interior
- This can be released in summer by ventilation
- Victorians understood the need for opening vents in the roofs to release the heat in the summer, high enough to exploit the stack effect, catch any breeze and ensure heads do not cook.
- Most PVC conservatories only have windows in the sides, a real problem

### Zero Energy Development



Reduce demand for artificial light and heating: **Outdoor living Conservatory life** sunny warm cave to retreat to in the cold of night



Hot house in the middle of winter Ventilation for summer No heating Solar gain **Exposed** thermal mass Windows and **Doors to house** 

### **Hockerton & BedZED**

- Conservatories are double glazed and Low Emissivity coated to allow the heat in, prevent it escaping and trap the heat for use
- Doors and windows from conservatory to house are triple glazed Low E for the same reason
- The doors and windows are closed not letting any heat from building out into conservatory
- Until the conservatory is hot enough then windows and doors are opened to let a burst of heat into the building to heat up the fabric

### Green Houses & Conservatories: Winter

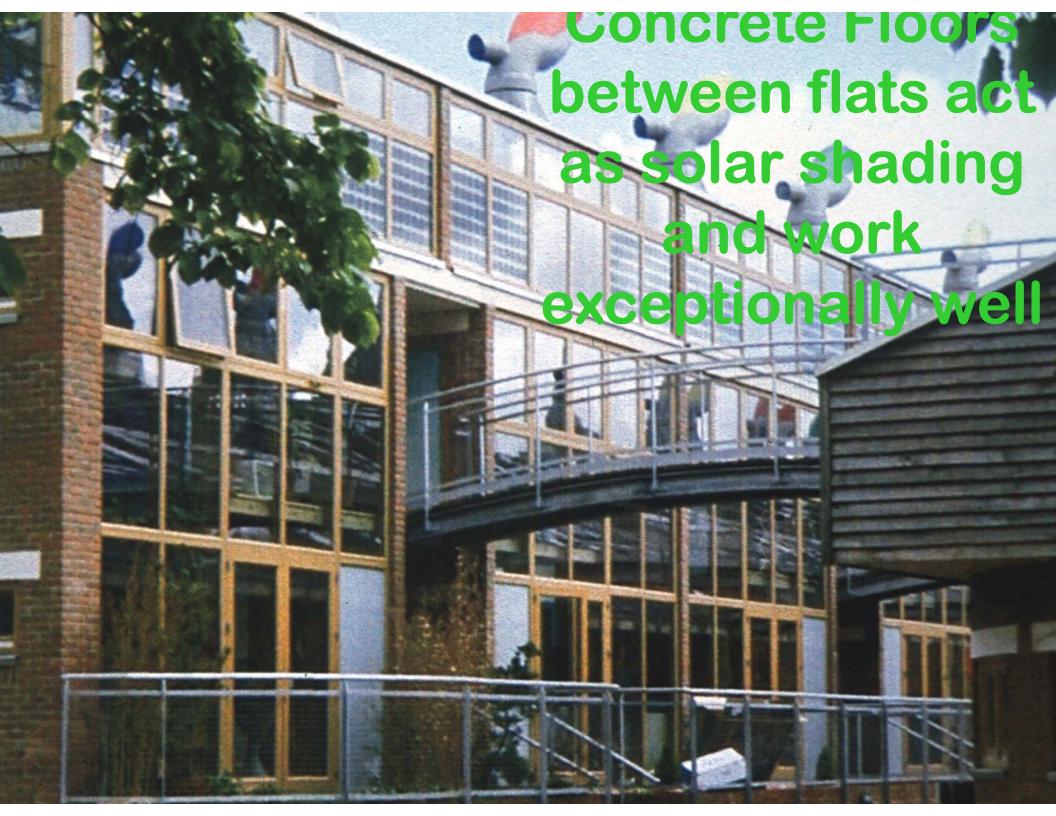
- Glass permit the passage of the rays from the sun to warm the interior
- Close all opening vents, doors and windows capture the heat
- This can be exploited in winter
- Grow plants that would otherwise perish

### Green Houses and Conservatories: Winter

- Thermal mass is where the construction materials are usually dense, close to the surface have large surface area, can absorb and store heat
- Conservatories can capture heat in sunny but cold weather
- Intelligent use of thermal mass in floors and rear walls can exploit the captured heat by storing it and saving it until the sun has disappeared and release it to warm the occupants of the conservatory.

### Lean-to Conservatories: warm the house

- Once a conservatory attached to a building is warmed
- it can than be used to heat the interior of the attached building by opening doors and windows between them to let the heat into the building
- The building's thermal mass can be warned and heat stored for release into the building later after the sun has gone



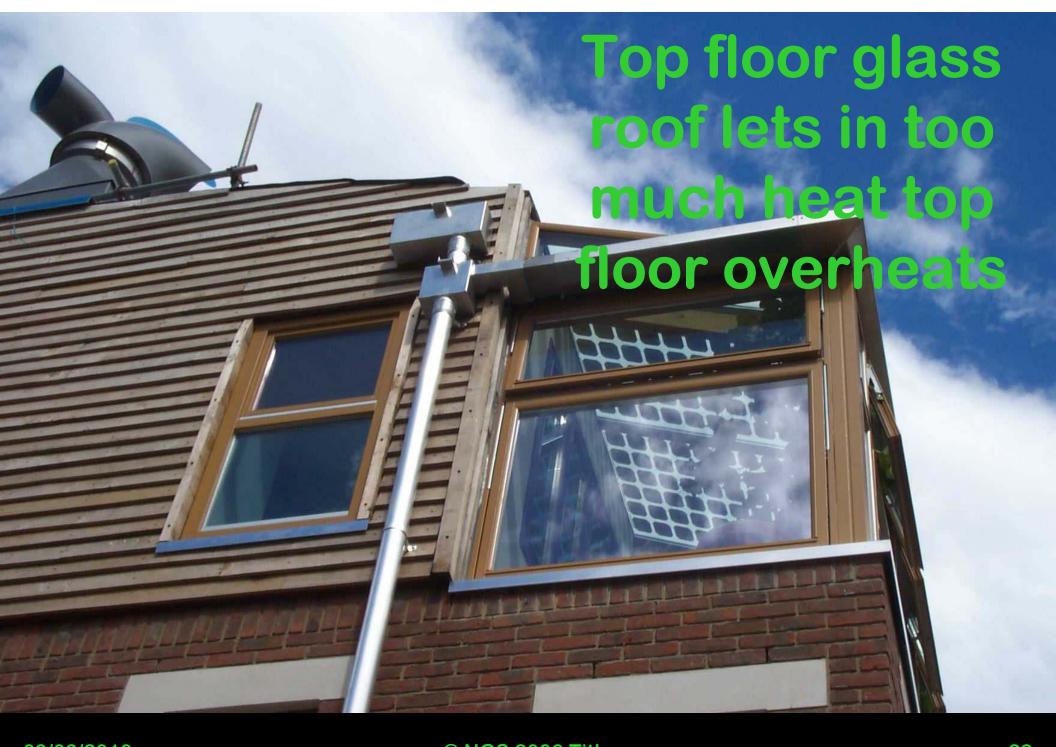


Sunroom on South face captures the sun





Heavy building elements store the heat and release it later





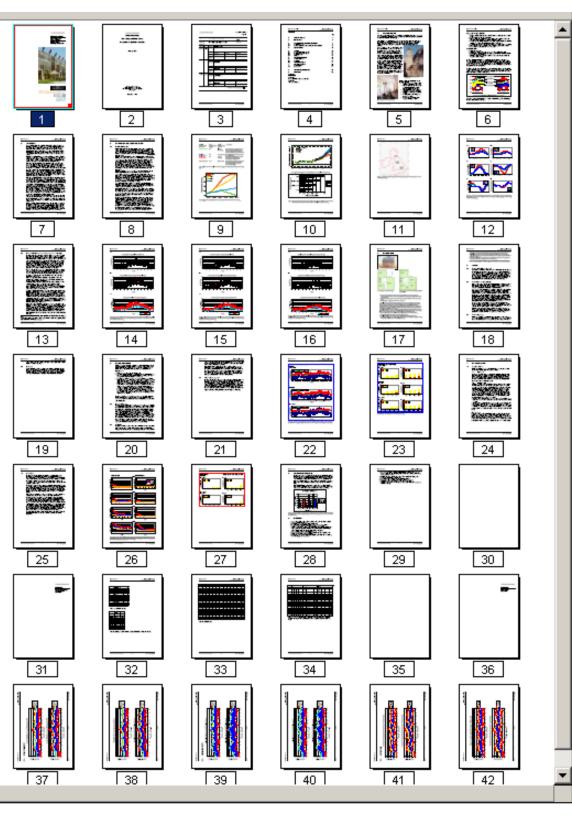


### Thermal Mass

Ventilation, warmth and coolth

### Heat movement in buildings

- ARUP/B Dunster Report on need for Thermal mass in buildings to cope with climate change global warming
- Recommend internal doors are self closing to hold heat energy where it is created or collected
- All partitions to be insulated
- Then actively move heat wherever you may want it or leave it where it is



ArupResearch+Development

Bill Dunster Architects

UK Housing and Climate Change

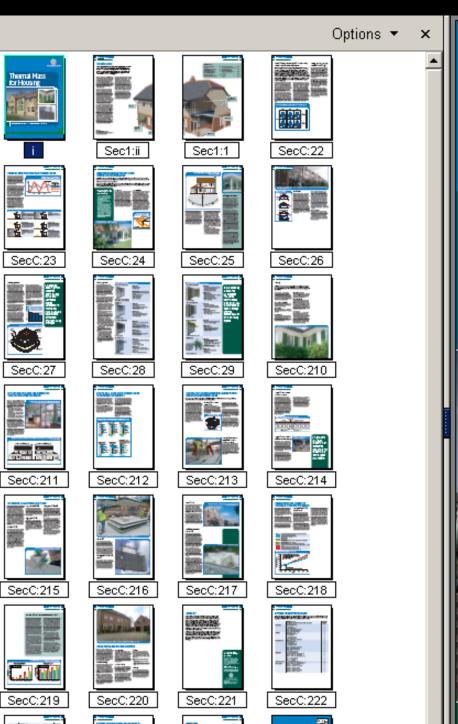
Heavyweight vs. lightweight construction





Feilden Clegg Bradley Architects LLP







### Thermal Mass for Housing



CONCRETE SOLUTIONS FOR THE CHANGING CLIMATE

### **Exploiting thermal mass**

- If the building has high thermal mass and its surfaces are exposed
- they can be exploited in both heating and cooling
- In winter the mass can be heated in the day the heat stored for exploitation in the night
- In summer the mass can be cooled in the night and exploited in the day

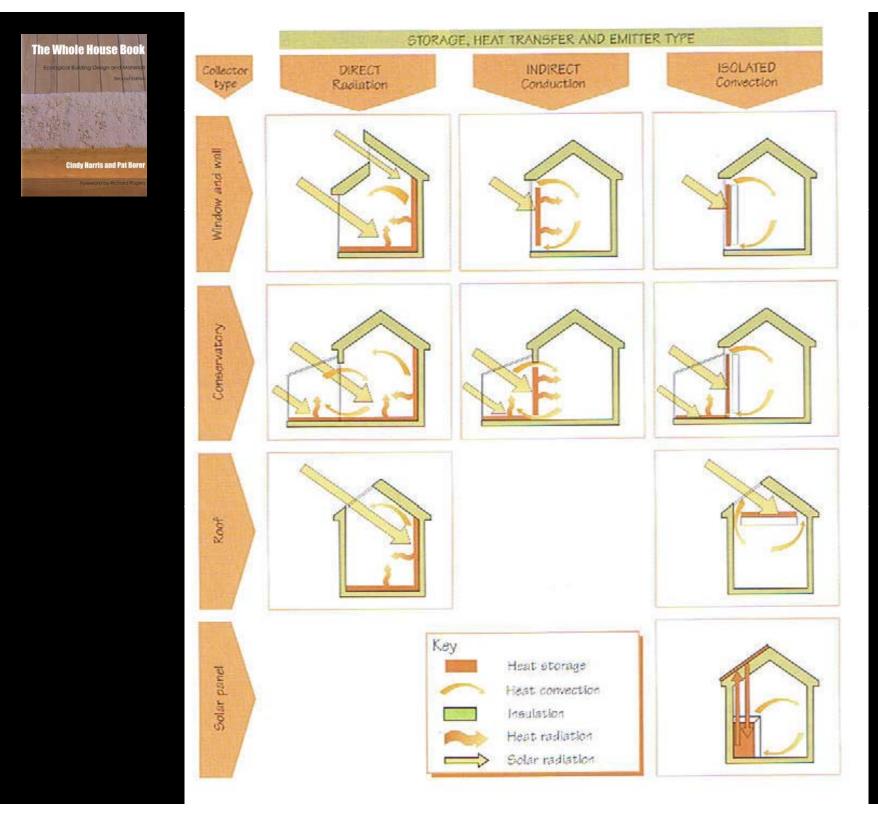


#### Thermal mass



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- Large surface areas are best
- Thickness closest to surface is used in daily cycles,
- Full thicknesses and more used over annual cycles
- Higher density material is best
- Exposed to the space not hidden above ceilings or below floors
- Exposed to the sun's rays is good
- Embedded pipes can be exploited to move warmth and coolth around building or into storage







### Hockerton HHP

Conservatories

### Zero Energy Development



Reduce demand for artificial light and heating:

**Outdoor living** 

**Conservatory life** 

Sunny warm cave to retreat into From the cold of night

**Hockerton Newark Nottinghamshire** 



## Hot house in the middle of winter





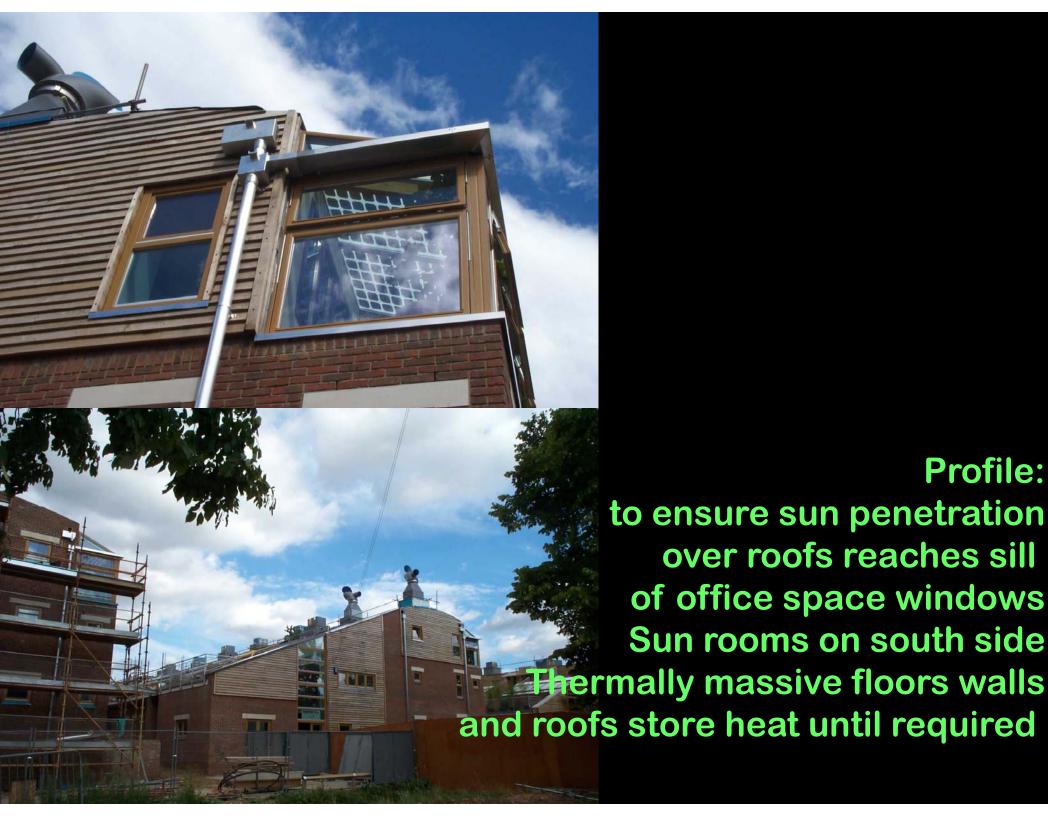
### BedZED

#### Conservatories

### Zero (Fossil Fuel) Energy Development



**BedZED Beddington Sutton Architect: Dr Bill Dunster** 





Sunroom on South face captures the sun





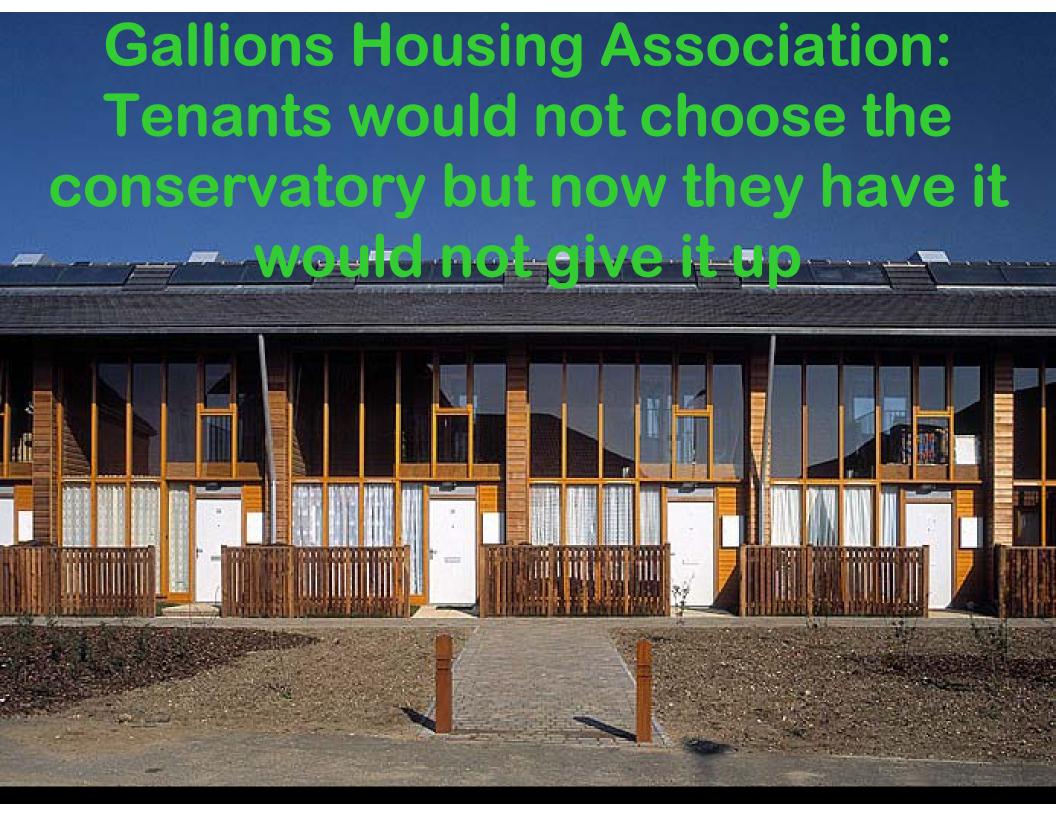
Heavy building elements store the heat and release it later





### Gallions HA

Conservatories







# Conservatories Gone Wrong

In the real world

## Conservatories gone wrong

- Heated Conservatories (why not Solar?)
- Radiant Heated Conservatories (under floor heating)
- If there is nothing to hit, the heat goes up and out the glass roof
- Electrically Heated Conservatories (+++CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Conservatories open to remainder of building (Heat gain or heat loss)
- Conservatories without ventilation (overheating)





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## National Botanic Gardens of Wales

Glass roof



Glass Roof: gain & loose heat no solar gain or heat loss control





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### GLA Head Quarters

**North Facing Conservatory** 

#### North facing conservatory



#### No hope then

- 90% of UK conservatories have heating installed
- In terms of fuel use they are like a gushing tap over a gulley
- Significant number have no doors or windows to separate from the rest of the house
- Despite the Building Regulations

#### **Conservatory Gone Wrong**

- No boundary between conservatory and accommodation beyond
- No thermal mass wall or floor to hold the heat
- No entry or exit ventilation in glazed roof
- No Solar shading (externally is best)
- Tenant fitted Air Conditioning







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# 1NTEGER @ BRE Intelligent & green

Not very intelligent Conservatory:
Secure all-weather garden
single glazed and double to house but open at top floor
Some solar shading, some planting

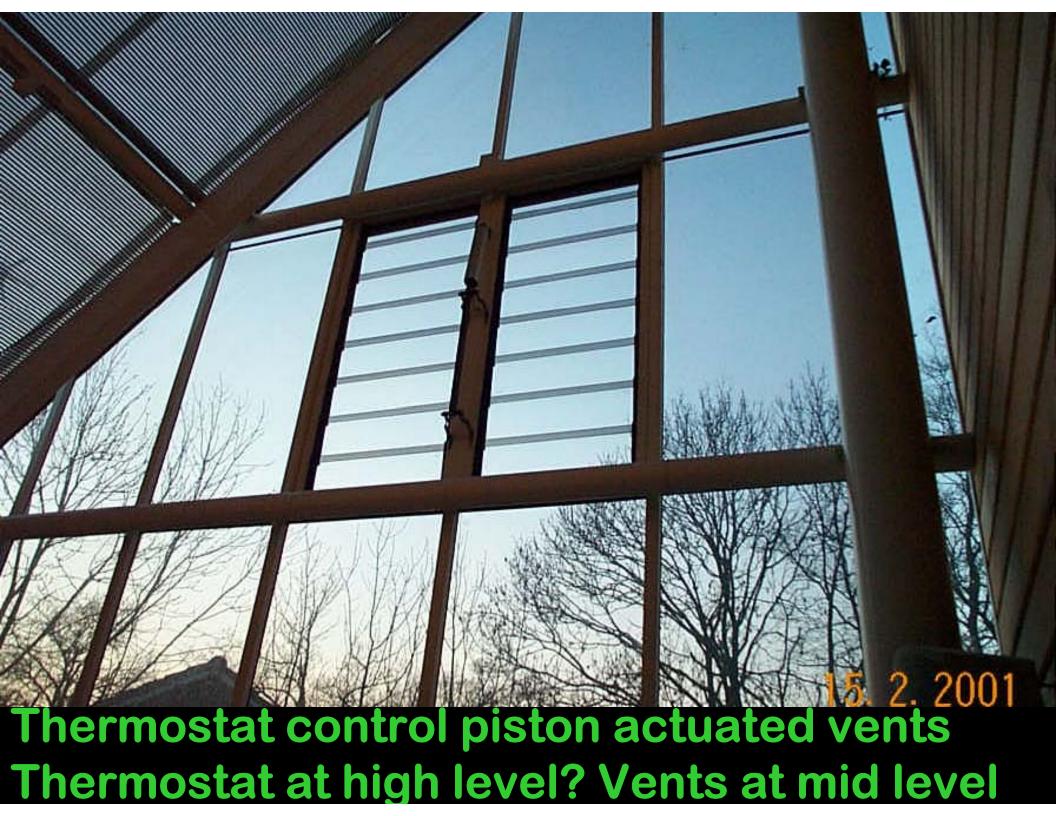
GER house vatory at The Fourth Product coming along?

The Fourth Product coming along? could be Single glazed No thermal mass back wall, open to living accommodation on top floor. Just sheltered ou 09/03/201 door space





**Opening vents** in side walls of conservatory but only half way up the height of the conservatory





Doors: provide low level ventilation Windows: none at top Internal solar shading: internal radiant heating & thermal stress



Solar Thermal ET for Hot Water Roof window & minimal PV



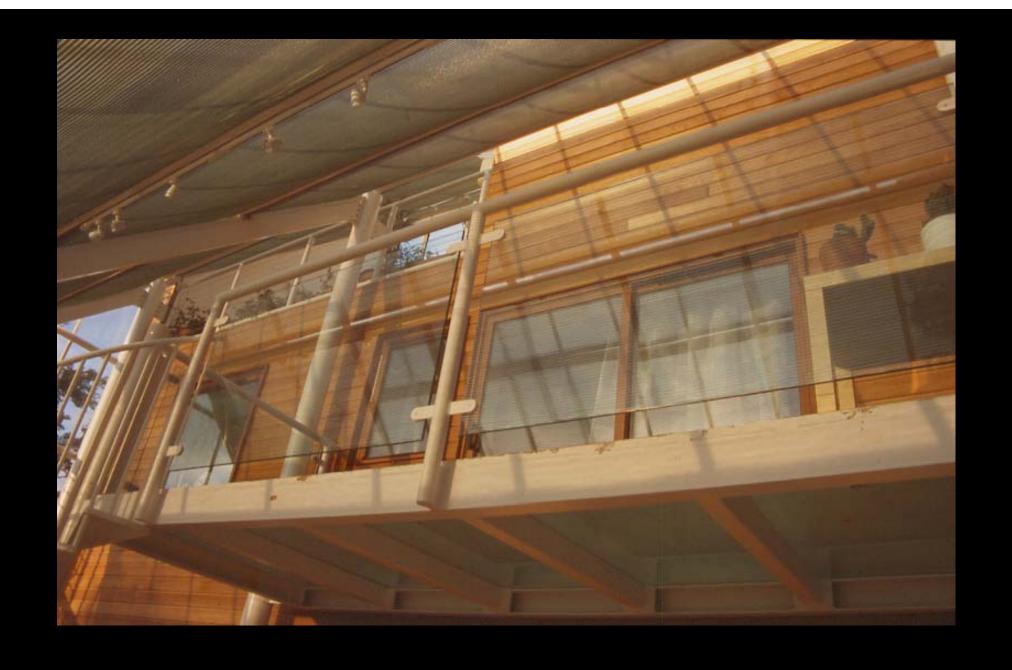
Rainwater:
collection and
disposal?
Any Harvesting
and reusing?







Internal Solar shading No Thermal Mass on rear wall Some thermal mass on floor



Top floor open to hottest part of conservatory



Internal solar shading: catches solar radiation heats up and re-radiates heat inwards. Energy efficient light fittings?





Bedrooms face South & open onto the warm conservatory, no escape

#### **Test Yourself**

- What are the ideal characteristics of a conservatory?
- How does HHP Hockerton exploit Thermal mass?

#### How did you do

- North facing, large glass areas, low E glass to trap heat, window and door vents at high and low level, external controllable solar shading
- High density, large surface area, exposed to passive heat gains from sun
- Traps sun in conservatory, heats up floor and back wall then warms up house interior